Energy

Summary:

Arizona has been a leader in defining effective methods to conserve energy and reduced emissions of greenhouse gases. Under Governor Napolitano's leadership, the state has already created the Pollution Prevention Program, which works with Arizona businesses to reduce toxic substances, minimize hazardous waste, and prevent the release of pollutants into the environment. The Governor also signed an executive order requiring all new state-funded facilities to derive at least 10% of energy from a renewable source, and implemented a pilot program to increase energy efficiency in schools. Arizona is also a founding member of the Western Climate Initiative.

The proposals announced in her State of the State address are included in an Energy Omnibus bill that addresses further the Arizona's efforts toward clean energy generation and sustainability.

Electricity Generation from Renewable Sources

The Arizona Corporation Commission – the agency responsible for regulation of utility companies – has taken the lead in requiring that more energy be generated by renewable sources.

Governor Napolitano proposes to expand that work by passing legislation that will require – by 2025 – that 15% of all electricity provided in Arizona be produced from renewable sources.

Low Carbon Fuels

Key to reducing greenhouse gas emissions is an increase in use of low-carbon fuels. The Governor's proposal would require that 10% of all fuel sold in Arizona be low in carbon emissions.

Statewide Minimum Energy Standards

The Governor proposes a statewide minimum standard for energy conservation for new construction, and ensuring that all new buildings meet those minimum standards.